## THE SCOTTISH HISTORICAL REVIEW

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Volume Forty-second

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### An Appreciation

of

Professor W. Croft Dickinson C.B.E. M.C. D.Lit. Hon.LL.D. (St Andrews)

William Croft Dickinson, who had edited this Review since 1947, died on 22 May 1963, at the age of sixty-six. A graduate of St Andrews, he was Librarian of the London School of Economics for ten years before his appointment to the Fraser Chair of Ancient (Scottish) History and Palaeography in the University of Edinburgh in 1944. St Andrews University conferred on him its honorary degree of LL.D. in 1952, and in the New Year Honours List this year he was made a Commander of the Order of the British Empire.

Professor Dickinson's own researches were concentrated on the institutions of medieval Scotland, but he was alive to the importance of every period and every topic in Scotland's past. It was as part of his determination to advance by every means the study of his subject that he resolved, soon after his appointment to the chair at Edinburgh, to revive the Scottish Historical Review, which had ceased publication in 1928. For the sixteen years during which the Review had his constant thought and care, he brought to his editorial labours an unremitting capacity for work, a meticulous attention to detail, methodical habits of business and a wide knowledge of publishing and book production. Under his editorship, the Review maintained standards which gave it a place in the highest rank of historical journals. His services to Scottish history were many, but none of them surpassed in importance his work on this Review.

GORDON DONALDSON

It is hoped to publish a fuller memoir of Professor Dickinson with a bibliography of his writings in a later number of the Review.

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